

Loma language

Loma (Loghoma, Looma, Lorma) is a Mande language spoken by the Loma people of Liberia and Guinea.

Dialects of Loma proper in Liberia are Gizima, Wubomei, Ziema, Bunde, Buluyiema. The dialect of Guinea, Toma (Toa, Toale, Toali, or Tooma, the Malinke name for *Loma*), is an official regional language.

In Liberia, the people and language are also known as "Bouze" (Busy, Buzi), which is considered offensive.

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Writing systems

Today, Loma uses a Latin-based alphabet which is written from left to right. A syllabary saw limited use in the 1930s and 1940s in correspondence between Loma-speakers, but today has fallen into disuse.^{[3][4][5]}

Sample

The Lord's Prayer in Loma:^[6]

Yàì è ga gé yeeai è gee-zuvε,
baa ya la yà laa-zeigi ma,
yà masadai va,
è yii-mai γε zui zu è γε velei é γε εzu la è wɔ
vε,
è zaa mii ηenigi ue gé ya,
è gé vaa uaitie zu uaa γε,
è γε velei gá balaa gé zɔitie zu uaa γεga la gá uaa yega te va.
Mε lε kε tε-ga ɔ wo ga gίε,
kè è gé wulo tubo-vele-yowũ nui ya.

Loma	
Looma	
<i>Löömàgòdì / Löghömagòdì</i>	
Pronunciation	[lɔːmàgòːi] [lɔɣɔmàgòːi]
Native to	Liberia, Guinea
Ethnicity	Loma
Native speakers	420,000 (2012) ^[1]
Language family	Niger–Congo - Mande - Western Mande - Southwestern - Mende–Loma Loma
Dialects	Toma
Language codes	
ISO 639-3	Either: lom – Liberian Loma tod – Toma
Glottolog	loma1259 (http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/loma1259) ^[2]

People	Löömàgìtì [lɔːmàgìtì] in Liberia Löghömagiti [lɔɣɔmagiti] in Guinea
Language	Löömàgòdì [lɔːmàgòːi] Löghömagòdì [lɔɣɔmàgòːi]

References

1. Liberian Loma (<https://www.ethnologue.com/18/language/lom/>) at *Ethnologue* (18th ed., 2015) Toma (<https://www.ethnologue.com/18/language/tod/>) at *Ethnologue* (18th ed., 2015)
2. Hammarström, Harald; Forkel, Robert; Haspelmath, Martin, eds. (2017). "Loma" (<http://glottolog.org/resource/language/id/loma1259>). *Glottolog 3.0*. Jena, Germany: Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History.
3. Everson, Michael (2010-01-21). "N3756: Preliminary proposal for encoding the Loma script in the SMP of the UCS" (<https://www.unicode.org/L2/L2010/10005-n3756-loma.pdf>) (PDF). ISO/IEC JTC1/SC2/WG2. Retrieved 2016-09-09.
4. Everson, Michael (2016-07-22). "N4735: Update on encoding the Loma script in the SMP of the UCS" (<https://www.unicode.org/L2/L2016/16201-n4735-loma.pdf>) (PDF). ISO/IEC JTC1/SC2/WG2. Retrieved 2016-09-09.
5. "Loma syllabary" (<http://www.omniglot.com/writing/loma.htm>).
6. Matthew 6:9-13 in *Deve niinɛ* [New Testament in Loma]. Monrovia: Bible Society in Liberia, 1971. This excerpt was visible at <http://www.christusrex.org/www1/pater/JPN-loma.html>, see archived version at <https://web.archive.org/web/20160306074512/http://www.christusrex.org/www1/pater/JPN-loma.html>.

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External links

- ISO proposal for Looma 'macrolanguage' (https://web.archive.org/web/20160718033417/http://www-01.sil.org/iso639-3/chg_detail.asp?id=2012-090&lang=lgo)

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